lanes through public-private partnership on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Hi-tech safety systems on highways

1321. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fatal accidents that occurred on different highways during the last one year;

(b) whether there is an increase in such accidents;

(c) if so, what remedial measures are proposed to make the highways accident free;

(d) whether Government propose to install Hi-Tech Safety Systems on Highways; and

(e) if so, the details of such Safety Systems proposed to be installed or already installed on the Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Total number of fatalities in road accidents on National Highways during the year 2001 was 28944 (Provisional). Number of accidents on National Highways per 1000 vehicles has been consistently declining.

(c) Government of India has been undertaking a number of engineering and educational measures to prevent road accidents. Some of the important steps taken by the Government besides highway design to check the road accidents are as under:

(1) Cranes and ambulances are provided to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme.

(2) Grants-in-aid to voluntary organizations for administering road safety programmes.

(3) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness through audiovisual-print media.

(4) Encouraging use of simulators in driver's training.

(5) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/ individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety.

(6) Organizing All India Essay Competition on road safety for school children with a view to create awareness.

(7) Tightening of fitness norms for transport vehicles.

(8) Widening and improvements of National Highways etc.

(d) and (e) Highways Traffic Management System (HTMS) has been installed by National Highways Authority of India between km. 162 to Km. 248 on the Kotputli-Amer Section NH-8 with the following facilities;

1. Emergency call boxes at intervals of every 2 km.
2. Close circuit Television Camera at 6 locations.
3. Variable messaging signs at 6 locations.
4. Video incident detection systems.

The extension of the HTMS depends upon the requirement for such system as also the availability of funds and *inter-se* priority.

National highways in Orissa

1322. SHRI B. J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to take up expansion of National Highways in Orissa at their expense;

(b) if so, how many road kilometres would be expanded in the State to connect the National Highways of other States;

(c) whether the project is moving at a slow pace; and